--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/268,405, filed March 15, 1999, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/742,279, filed October 31, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,906,915, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/491,099 filed June 16, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/216,734, filed March 22, 1994, now abandoned, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/610,478 filed November 7, 1990, now abandoned.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-36 and simultaneously add the following new claims.

37. (New) A red blood cell composition comprising:

a quantity of concentrated red blood cells resuspended in a solution prepared with approximately 30 to about 60 mmol/l dextrose, approximately 1.2 to about 1.7 mmol/l adenine, approximately 30 to about 50 mmol/l mannitol, approximately 4.5 to about 55 mmol/l sodium citrate, approximately 2 to about 5 mmol sodium diphosphate, approximately 8 to about 18 mmol/l sodium phosphate dibasic;

wherein said solution is substantially free of chloride and has an osmolarity of less than 300 mOsm.

38. (New) The composition of Claim 37 wherein said solution has a pH of approximately 7.4.

39. (New) The composition of Claim 37 wherein said solution is prepared with approximately 45.4 mmol/l dextrose, approximately 1.5 mmol/l adenine, approximately 40.0 mmol/l mannitol, approximately 25 mmol/l sodium citrate, approximately 3.9 mmol/sodium diphosphate, approximately 16.1 mmol/l sodium phosphate dibasic.

40. (New) The composition of Claim 37 wherein said concentrated red blood cells are resuspended in approximately 75-150 ml of said solution.

41. (New) The composition of Claim 37 wherein said red blood cells are resuspended in a solution including said adenine, mannitol, sodium citrate, sodium diphosphate and said sodium phosphate dibasic followed by the addition of said dextrose.